

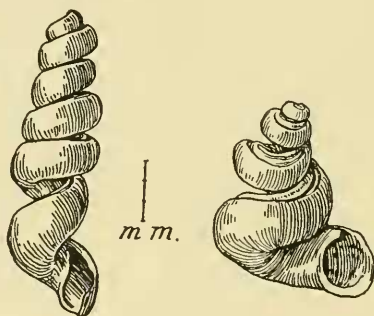
ON *SILIQUARIA WILMANÆ*, N.SP., FROM SOUTH AFRICA.

By J. R. LE B. TOMLIN, M.A., F.E.S.

Read 14th December, 1917.

THE species which I propose to designate by this name is very possibly that listed by Sowerby¹ as a small form of *Siliquaria obtusa*, Schumacher, and by Bartsch² as *S. weldi*, T.-Woods; at any rate, it is one of the many endemic Cape species that have till recently been erroneously identified with species from other parts of the world. This shell does not tally with Schumacher's description of his *Anguinaria obtusa*, and I do not entertain for a moment the possibility of its identity with a Tasmanian species.

The shell is smooth and without sculpture, as far as can be ascertained from beach specimens, white or brownish in colour, consisting of 6-7 whorls, which as a rule take the form of a rather regular, disconnected, spiral coil.



The apex is decollate in all the specimens I have seen, and the broken end of the coil is frequently plugged by the animal. The slit appears on the upper whorls as a deep canaliculation closed with a lamella, becoming open on the last two or three whorls, and the species therefore falls into Mörch's section *Pyxipoma*. The altitude of the type-specimen is 15.5 mm., and the diameter of the tube 2.5 mm., but the latter measurement varies considerably in different specimens.

Loc.—Port Alfred, Jeffreys Bay, and East London. Probably it is generally distributed in the Cape region.

In general form and size *S. wilmanæ* is very similar to *S. senegalensis*, Récl., but the latter belongs to the section *Agathirses*, the slit taking the form of a series of separate, irregular apertures.

Type.—The longer of the two examples figured, which is in my own collection.

¹ *Marine Shells of South Africa*, p. 39.

² Rept. Turton Coll. S. Afr. Marine Moll. (U.S. Nat. Mus. Bull. 91), p. 117.